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ABSTRACT

Previous reports from the office for student affairs at the University of Minnesota have contained a review of the literature on programs for high risk students, a description of the overall progress of students in the Martin Luther King (MLK) program, and a description of MLK students academic records. The present report continues this series and focuses on the courses MLK students have taken in the college of liberal arts (CLA) from the fall 1970 through the summer 1972. The purposes of the report are the following: (1) to describe the academic records of MLK students in CLA courses, and (2) to compare CLA grade point averages for various subgroups of students. These analyses were based on transcripts of 650 MLK students. A total of 1,015 different CLA courses were taken by the MLK students during that period of time. However, 104 of the courses had more than 10 MLK students registered during the period; of the courses, mean course grade point was "C" or higher in over 94% of the courses. The analysis of individual grade point averages across courses did not yield any significant subgroup (college of entrance, year of entrance, status at entrance, ethnic group, sex, age at entrance) differences. (Author/PG)

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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS GRADES FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: FALL QUARTER, 1970, THROUGH SUMMER SESSION II, 1972

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University of Minnesota
Admissions and Records

Abstract

The present report describes the College of Liberal Arts course grades for MLK students who registered in College of Liberal Arts courses from Fall Quarter, 1970, through Summer Session II, 1972. These analyses were based on the transcripts of 650 MLK students. A total of 1,015 different CLA courses were taken by MLK students during that period of time. However, 104 of the courses had more than ten MLK students registered during the period; of these courses, mean course grade point averages were "C" or higher in over 94% of the courses. The analyses of individuals' grade point averages across courses did not yield any significant subgroup (college of entrance, year of entrance, status at entrance, ethnic group, sex, age at entrance) differences.

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Previous reports in the Office for Student Affairs Research Bulletin series have contained a review of the literature on programs for high risk students (Hendel, 1973[a]), a description of the overall progress of students in the Martin Luther King Program (Hendel, 1973[a]), and a description of MLK students' academic records in General College (Hendel, 1973[b]).

The present report continues this series and focuses on the courses MLK students have taken in the College of Liberal Arts. The purposes of the present report are the following: 1) to describe the academic records of MLK students in CLA courses, and 2) to compare CLA grade point averages for various subgroups of students.

Method

Students' transcripts were coded according to the coding format contained in Appendix A. Only courses taken in the College of Liberal Arts were coded for the present series of analyses. Although the majority of the courses taken in the College of Liberal Arts were for students enrolled in that college, some of the CLA courses were taken by students enrolled in other colleges. Both types of student registration were included in the present analyses.

Analogous to the coding for General College courses, these data represent only courses taken Fall Quarter, 1970, through Summer Session II, 1972. The change in the University course numbering system in the fall of 1970 prohibited examination of courses taken before that date. Although the first report on graduation status for MLK students was based on 1,074 students (MLK students who could have completed three quarters at the University of Minnesota by Fall Quarter, 1972), this report is based on a subset of that group. These data represent the CLA courses taken by approximately 650 MLK students.

The courses were coded according to a departmental coding format, and, within each department, the course numbers listed on the transcripts were coded. Grade frequency distributions for specific courses could be calculated from these data.

College of Liberal Arts course information was coded onto coding sheets. The data were then keypunched and verified by the Data Processing Department.

Two types of information were derived from these course data. To obtain information for each course, a computer program was written which calculated the grade frequency distribution and the grade point average, across all students, for each CLA course. To analyze individual grade point averages in terms of differences among subgroups of students, a grade point average across all CLA courses was calculated for each person. A computer program calculated the grade point average for each individual; the possible range was from 0.0 to 4.0. The ANOVA1 program was used to compare subgroups of students by analysis of variance techniques.

Results

The results of this report will be discussed in the following order: 1) grade frequency distributions for CLA courses, and 2) comparison of grade point averages for subgroups of students.

Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses

To avoid presenting course data for courses in which relatively small numbers of MLK students had registered, grade frequency distributions have not been reported for courses in which ten or fewer MLK students had registered. The data for small enrollment classes have, however, been analyzed and are available in computer printout form.

The grade codes used were the A-F system, a code for "I" courses, a code for "W" courses, and codes for "P" and "N" grades. In addition to the frequency distributions for course grades, a course grade point average is reported, also.

Because of rounding in the calculation of percentages in each grade category, the sum of the percentages for specific courses rarely totals 100%.

Table I contains the grade point averages and the grade frequency distributions for CLA courses in which more than ten MLK students had registered during the period of time from Fall Quarter, 1970, through Summer Session II, 1972. The courses are listed according to the CLA department in which the course was taught. The departments are listed alphabetically in Table I, and within each of the departments, the courses are listed numerically according to the four-digit course numbers. To obtain course titles and descriptions of course content, the reader may obtain a copy of the 1971-73 College of Liberal Arts Bulletin (University of Minnesota, Bulletin Number 15).

Comparison of Individual Grade Point Averages for Subgroups of Students

Although the description of CLA course grades was based on 650 students' transcripts, these subgroup comparisons were based on a smaller number of MLK students. Because 113 students did not have grade records which could be used to calculate an individual's grade point average (all Incompletes, Withdrawals, or missing grades), these analyses were based on 537 MLK students. Hence, these data are not strictly comparable to the data in the first section of this paper and, moreover, are not strictly comparable with the data in the first and second MLK reports.

Individual grade point average, across all courses taken in the College of Liberal Arts from Fall Quarter, 1970, through Summer Session II, 1972, was used as the dependent variable in a series of one-way analyses of variance. The

TABLE I

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
Afro-American Studies											
1-015	74	2.61	0	4	32	28	11	3	0	19	3
1-025	53	3.05	2	0	17	36	26	2	0	17	0
1-036	14	2.33	0	0	64	14	7	0	0	14	0
1-045	104	2.83	1	4	11	56	8	2	0	12	8
1-102	16	2.88	6	0	0	31	12	0	0	44	6
1-103	15	3.13	0	0	7	33	13	0	0	40	7
1-221	23	2.40	4	13	22	4	22	22	0	13	0
1-223	12	3.00	0	0	8	25	8	17	0	25	17
1-301	65	2.98	0	2	11	45	12	2	0	28	2
1-442	20	3.00	0	0	25	5	25	0	0	45	0
1-590	17	2.75	0	0	35	18	18	0	0	18	12
3-055	44	3.24	0	0	5	57	25	0	0	11	2
3-061	46	3.42	0	0	4	30	33	0	0	28	4
3-062	34	3.50	0	0	0	38	38	0	0	15	9
3-072	56	2.93	2	4	20	27	27	2	0	18	2
3-098	14	2.89	0	0	29	14	21	7	0	29	0
3-105	26	2.80	0	0	27	15	15	0	0	38	4
3-301	15	2.78	0	0	20	33	7	0	0	33	7
3-455	12	2.36	0	0	58	33	0	0	0	8	0
3-970	26	3.59	0	0	0	27	38	4	0	31	0
5-101	11	3.00	0	0	0	11	0	9	0	18	0

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
American Indian Studies											
1-021	32	2.00	0	6	0	6	0	3	6	59	19
1-101	13	3.44	0	0	8	23	38	0	0	31	0
1-102	11	3.14	0	0	9	36	18	0	0	36	0
3-061	28	3.16	0	0	7	43	18	4	0	21	7
3-970	19	3.46	0	0	5	26	37	0	0	26	5
5-211	14	3.89	0	0	0	7	57	0	0	29	7
5-960	22	3.46	0	0	0	32	27	5	0	36	0
Anthropology											
1-001	28	2.05	0	14	39	11	4	0	0	29	4
1-002	60	2.18	8	12	20	25	8	7	0	15	5

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
Classics											
1-042	14	3.20	0	0	21	14	36	0	0	21	7
Communication											
1-001	35	2.16	3	3	31	17	0	0	0	40	6
1-002	21	2.43	5	5	19	33	5	5	0	19	10
1-003	17	2.56	0	6	18	24	6	12	0	29	6
Economics											
1-001	40	2.13	5	15	15	18	8	10	0	23	8
1-002	22	2.31	0	9	41	14	9	9	0	9	9
English											
1-001	133	2.70	0	4	28	26	14	8	0	17	4
1-002	108	2.77	0	4	19	31	11	10	0	20	6
1-003	63	2.94	0	2	14	25	14	16	0	24	5
1-004	21	2.57	0	14	14	24	14	19	5	5	5
1-027	12	3.00	0	0	17	25	17	17	0	8	17

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
French											
1-001	19	2.29	5	0	11	21	0	11	0	42	11
1-004	12	3.14	0	0	8	33	17	33	0	0	8
1-101	14	2.50	0	0	14	14	0	29	0	29	14
Geography											
1-301	27	2.10	0	18	37	18	4	7	0	4	11
1-401	13	2.33	0	8	38	15	8	15	0	15	0
History											
1-001	21	2.69	0	10	5	43	5	10	0	24	5
1-002	13	2.62	0	0	23	39	0	0	0	39	0
1-301	20	2.94	0	0	25	35	20	5	0	5	10
1-302	29	2.68	0	7	24	31	14	0	0	21	3
Humanities											
1-001	35	2.62	0	0	29	26	6	9	0	29	3
1-002	11	2.44	0	9	45	9	18	0	0	9	9
3-004	12	2.91	0	8	17	42	25	8	0	0	0
3-005	13	2.83	8	0	0	23	15	23	0	23	8
3-045	15	3.62	0	0	0	33	53	0	0	13	0
3-046	15	3.08	0	0	13	47	20	7	0	13	0

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
Journalism and Mass Communication											
1-001	21	1.25	14	33	24	5	0	0	0	19	5
Modern Greek											
1-101	20	3.12	0	5	5	45	30	0	0	10	5
Music											
1-001	29	2.65	3	0	28	24	14	17	0	3	10
Natural Science											
1-004	15	3.00	0	0	0	13	0	53	0	27	7
Personal Orientation											
1-001	33	3.36	0	3	9	14	37	9	0	23	6
Philosophy											
1-001	44	2.05	7	11	14	9	9	5	2	30	14
1-002	16	3.11	0	0	11	22	17	6	0	33	11

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
Political Science											
1-001	50	2.00	2	14	36	14	2	4	0	18	10
1-002	15	1.75	7	13	20	13	0	0	0	33	13
1-025	18	2.33	6	6	6	33	0	6	6	33	6
1-026	12	2.50	8	8	0	17	17	17	0	17	17
1-051	16	1.63	6	6	38	0	0	6	0	31	13
Psychology											
1-001	90	1.57	19	10	28	9	4	4	1	17	8
1-002	40	2.39	5	0	35	23	8	13	2	2	13
1-004	22	2.17	5	5	27	14	5	14	0	18	14
1-005	13	2.44	8	8	15	23	15	0	0	23	8
3-801	12	2.38	0	0	50	8	8	8	0	17	8
5-604	14	2.73	0	7	29	21	21	0	0	21	0
5-605	12	2.91	0	8	8	58	17	0	0	8	0
Social Science											
1-846	16	2.85	0	0	19	56	6	0	0	19	0

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
Social Work											
3-001	34	3.11	0	0	12	47	21	3	0	12	6
3-005	17	3.07	0	0	18	41	24	0	0	12	6
Sociology											
1-001	106	2.34	4	12	29	13	16	2	0	22	2
1-002	21	1.95	5	24	38	29	0	0	0	0	5
1-004	37	2.97	3	8	16	19	38	3	0	13	0
1-005	21	2.83	0	5	19	14	19	0	0	24	19
1-006	12	2.83	0	8	33	25	33	0	0	0	0
3-101	43	2.83	0	9	18	18	24	3	0	12	15
3-801	25	2.71	4	0	24	24	16	8	0	12	12
3-970	13	3.00	0	0	8	8	8	38	0	31	0
5-201	14	2.90	0	0	21	36	14	0	0	21	7
5-401	12	2.44	0	17	17	33	8	8	0	8	8
5-501	16	1.85	6	19	44	6	6	6	0	13	0

TABLE I - Continued

Grade Point Averages and Grade Frequency Distributions for CLA Courses by Department

Department and Course Number	Total Registered	GPA	F %	D %	C %	B %	A %	P %	N %	I %	W %
Spanish											
1-101	68	2.77	0	3	9	17	7	28	1	25	13
1-102	48	2.75	0	6	10	13	13	29	0	19	10
1-103	30	3.14	0	3	10	10	23	20	3	17	13
1-104	15	2.57	0	0	19	25	0	6	0	38	13
1-105	11	2.67	0	0	27	18	9	18	0	9	18
3-506	30	2.39	0	17	17	40	3	0	0	20	3
5-505	16	2.40	0	6	50	31	6	0	0	6	0
Speech-Communication											
1-101	39	2.90	0	5	15	36	18	3	3	18	3
1-102	18	2.40	6	6	22	6	17	11	6	17	11
5-451	16	3.75	0	0	0	13	38	44	0	6	0
Studio Art											
1-101	29	2.76	0	0	28	34	10	3	0	17	7
1-102	16	2.92	0	0	19	50	13	0	0	13	6
Theatre Arts											
1-101	32	2.63	0	6	22	41	6	13	0	6	6
1-321	14	2.83	0	0	43	14	29	7	0	0	7
1-501	11	3.33	0	0	0	36	18	9	0	27	9

following six demographic variables were used as the independent variables: college of entrance into the University, year of entrance into the University, status at entrance into the University, sex, ethnic group, and age at entrance into the University.

College of Entrance into the University. Although five college of entrance codes (GC, CLA, AFHE, IT, and Other) were possible, only two college of entrance student groups had taken courses in the College of Liberal Arts. That is, the grade point average analysis was a comparison of CLA grade point averages for students who entered the University through General College versus students who entered the University through the College of Liberal Arts.

The mean grade point average for General College students (N=241) was 2.59 (SD=.79), compared with a mean grade point average of 2.65 (SD=.69) for students in the College of Liberal Arts (N=263). The F-ratio obtained from the ANOVA was .53, which is not significant at $p \leq .05$.

Year of Entrance into the University. Six year of entrance groups were used in this analysis: 1965 or earlier (N=27), 1966 and 1967 combined (N=18), 1968 (N=60), 1969 (N=90), 1970 (N=174), and 1971 (N=168). The means and standard deviations for each of the groups are as follows: 1965 or earlier, $\bar{X}$=2.78, SD=.68; 1966 and 1967, $\bar{X}$=2.93, SD=.53; 1968, $\bar{X}$=2.53, SD=.88; 1969, $\bar{X}$=2.59, SD=.78; 1970, $\bar{X}$=2.65, SD=.70; 1971, $\bar{X}$=2.60, SD=.73. The ANOVA resulted in an F-ratio of 1.16, which is not significant at $p \leq .05$. That is, College of Liberal Arts grade point averages were approximately the same for all year of entrance categories.

Status at Entrance into the University. The ANOVA for this variable consisted of a comparison of College of Liberal Arts grade point averages for MLK students who entered the University as new high school students (NHS, N=417) versus students who entered as new advanced standing (NAS, N=119). The mean grade point average for NHS was 2.61 (SD=.76), compared with a mean of 2.69

(SD=.67) for NAS. The F-ratio obtained from the ANOVA was 1.21, which is not significant at $p \leq .05$. NHS and NAS students did not have significantly different CLA grade point averages.

Ethnic Group. Six ethnic group categories were used in this analysis: American Indian (N=53), Black (N=305), Chicano (N=39), Asian American (N=6), White (N=97), and Unidentified (N=37).

The means and standard deviations for the groups are as follows: American Indian, $\bar{X}$=2.62, SD=.82; Black, $\bar{X}$=2.57, SD=.75; Chicano, $\bar{X}$=2.79, SD=.58; Asian American, $\bar{X}$=2.88, SD=.53; White, $\bar{X}$=2.68, SD=.74; and Unidentified, $\bar{X}$=2.71, SD=.70. The F-ratio obtained from the ANOVA was 1.07, which was not significant at $p \leq .05$. The differences in mean grade point averages could have been obtained by chance, and therefore, small differences in mean grade point averages should not be interpreted. That is, there were no significant differences in mean CLA grade point averages among the six ethnic group categories.

Sex. The mean grade point average for males (N=270) was 2.60 (SD=.78), compared with a mean grade point average of 2.66 (SD=.70) for females (N=267). The F-ratio obtained from the ANOVA was .86, which is not significant at $p \leq .05$. No differences, on the basis of sex, were found in the grade point averages of MLK students in the College of Liberal Arts.

Age at Entrance into the University. Four age at entrance categories were used in this analysis of variance: 16-18 (N=242), 19-21 (N=148), 22-25 (N=76), and 26-55 (N=71). The means and standard deviations for the four age groups are as follows: 16-18, $\bar{X}$=2.61, SD=.69; 19-21, $\bar{X}$=2.60, SD=.79; 22-25, $\bar{X}$=2.72, SD=.74; 26-55, $\bar{X}$=2.62, SD=.80. The F-ratio obtained from the ANOVA was .51, which is not significant at $p \leq .05$.

Conclusions

This report focused on two aspects of MLK students' academic records in the College of Liberal Arts: 1) grade frequency distributions in specific CLA courses, and 2) a comparison of mean grade point averages for several subgroups of students.

A total of 104 courses had more than ten MLK students registered during the period of time covered in this report (Fall Quarter, 1970, through Summer Session II, 1972). Average course grade point averages varied greatly from course to course and from department to department. Course grade point averages were "C" or higher (2.00 or greater) in 98 (94.2%) of the CLA courses. Course averages of "C" or less were obtained for the following six courses: Journalism 1-001, Political Science 1-002, Political Science 1-051, Psychology 1-001, Sociology 1-002, and Sociology 5-501.

Although this report describes the performance of MLK students in 104 courses, a larger number of CLA courses (911) had registered small numbers of MLK students (ten or less) and, hence, were not presented in this report. A total of 1,015 different CLA courses were taken by MLK students from Fall Quarter, 1970, through Summer Session II, 1972. The present report described only the 104 "large enrollment" courses.

Individual grade point averages were not significantly different for any of the subgroups of students (college of entrance, year of entrance, status at entrance, ethnic group, sex, and age at entrance). The average individual grade point average for the total group of 537 students was 2.63, with a standard deviation of .74.

The data which described grade frequency distributions warrant additional analysis to answer questions such as the following: Do the courses in which MLK students received lower average grades rely predominantly on objective

examinations in determining course grades? How do the course grades for MLK students compare with the grades for all students who were registered for a specific course?

REFERENCES

Hendel, D. D. Progress toward graduation for students enrolled in the Martin Luther King program at the University of Minnesota: an analysis of overall trends. Office for Student Affairs Research Bulletin, University of Minnesota, 13(9), May, 1973. (a)

Hendel, D. D. General college grades for students enrolled in the Martin Luther King program at the University of Minnesota: fall quarter, 1970, through summer session II, 1972. Office for Student Affairs Research Bulletin, University of Minnesota, 13(10), June, 1973. (b)

APPENDIX A

Project: Admissions and Records
MLK Transcript Analysis
Spring 1973

Card Number: 80--

Title: Course Information for All Courses Taken in CLA

Description:

Approximate Number:

Card 80

Col 1-2: Card Number (80)
Col 3: Blank
Col 4-9: U of M File Number
Col 10: Blank
Col 11-19: CLA Course 1 on Transcript
- Col 11-12: CLA Department Code (see attached list of codes 01-74)
- Col 13-16: Course Number as Listed on Transcript
- Col 17-18: Number of Credits, right adjusted
- Col 19: Grade in Course, coded as follows:
  - 4=A
  - 3=B
  - 2=C
  - 1=D
  - 0=F
  - 6=P
  - 7=N
  - 8=I
  - 9=W

Col 20-28: CLA Course 2 on Transcript
Col 29-37: CLA Course 3 on Transcript
Col 38-46: CLA Course 4 on Transcript
Col 47-55: CLA Course 5 on Transcript
Col 56-64: CLA Course 6 on Transcript
Col 65-73: CLA Course 7 on Transcript
Col 74-80: Blank

Card 81

Col 1-2: Card Number (81)
Col 3: Blank
Col 4-9: U of M File Number
Col 10: Blank
Col 11-73: Courses 8-14 on Transcript (coded same as for Card 80)
Col 74-80: Blank

Card 82

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Department Codes for
the College of Liberal Arts

Department Name	Abbreviation	Numeric Code
Afro-American Studies	Afro	01
American Indian Studies	AmIn	02
American Studies	AmSt	03
Anthropology	Anth	04
Art History	ArtH	05
Art Studio	ArtS	06
Classics		
Classics	Clas	07
Classical Philosophy	ClPh	08
Greek	Grk	09
Latin	Lat	10
Modern Greek	MdGk	11
College Honors Seminar	CHS	12
Communication	Comm	13
Communication Disorders	CDis	14
Comparative Literature	CLit	15
Criminal Justice Studies	CJS	16
East Asian Languages		
Chinese	Chin	17
Japanese	Jpn	18
Oriental	Ortl	19
Economics	Econ	20
English		
English	Engl	21
English Composition	Comp	22
French and Italian		
French	Fren	23
Italian	Ital	24

APPENDIX A - Continued

Department Codes for CLA - continued

Department Name	Abbreviation	Numeric Code
Geography	Geog	25
German		
Dutch	Dtch	26
German	Ger	27
History	Hist	28
Humanities	Hum	29
Interdepartmental Studies	ID	30
International Relations	IntR	31
Journalism and Mass Communication	Jour	32
Latin American Studies	LAS	33
Library	Lib	34
Linguistics	Ling	35
Middle Eastern Languages		
Akkadian	Akka	36
Arabic	Arab	37
Aramaic	Arm	38
Hebrew	Hebr	39
Middle Eastern Studies	MidE	40
Persian	Per	41
Turkish	Turk	42
Music	Mus	43
Natural Science	NSci	44
Philosophy	Phil	45
Political Science	Pol	46
Psychology		
Personal Orientation	PO	47
Psychology	Psy	48
Public Affairs	PA	49
Religious Studies	RelS	50

APPENDIX A - Continued

Department Codes for CLA - continued

Department Name	Abbreviation	Numeric Code
Scandinavian Languages		
Danish	Dan	51
Finnish	Fin	52
Norwegian	Nor	53
Scandinavian	Scan	54
Swedish	Swed	55
Slavic and Eastern European Languages		
Polish	Plsh	56
Russian	Russ	57
Serbo-Croatian	Serb	58
Slavic	Slav	59
Social Science	SSci	60
Social Work	SW	61
Sociology	Soc	62
South Asian Languages		
Bengali	Ben	63
Hindi	Hndi	64
Indic	Indc	65
Marathi	Mar	66
Sanskrit	Skt	67
Urdu	Urdu	68
Spanish and Portuguese		
Portuguese	Port	69
Spanish	Span	70
Speech-Communication	Spch	71
Statistics	Stat	72
Theatre Arts	Th	73
Chicano Studies	Chic	74